

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-15 (ISO) W

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P 041420Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8996

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY VIENNA PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN PRIORITY

UNCLAS ATHENS 4114

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, GR, CY

SUBJ: CLERIDIS STOPS OVER IN ATHENS ON WAY TO VIENNA

1. PRINCIPAL GREEK-CYPRIOT NEGOTIATOR IN INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS, GLAFKOS CLERIDIS, ARRIVED ATHENS JUNE 3 FOR OVERNIGHT STAY BEFORE PROCEEDING VIENNA TO RESUME INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS. THIS SECOND ROUND OF TALKS SCHEDULED TO COMMENCE IN VIENNA JUNE 5.

2. IN AIRPORT STATEMENT, CLERIDIS NOTED THAT TURKISH-CYPRIOT LEADER DENKTASH HAD UNDERTAKEN OBLIGATION TO "PROVIDE ANSWERS TO CERTAIN QUESTIONS" WHICH WERE RAISED DURING ROUND ONE OF VIENNA TALKS (I.E. APRIL 28-MAY 3). CLERIDIS STATES THESE ANSWERS ARE EXPECTED TO CLARIFY TURKISH POSITION ON CYPRUS ISSUE.

3. IN REPLY TO JOURNALIST'S QUESTION, CLERIDIS ASSERTED THAT IT STILL TOO EARLY TO SAY WHETHER THERE WILL BE TURKISH CONCESSIONS IN VIENNA AND IF SO WHETHER THEY WOULD BE SATISFACTORY. ASKED WHETHER HE MORE OPTIMISTIC NOW THAN PREVIOUSLY, CLERIDIS NOTED THAT

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HE HAS NEVER BEEN EITHER OPTIMISTIC OR PESSIMISTIC BUT

RATHER IS OF OPINION THAT "WE MUST BE FIRM IN OUR POSITIONS
AND NEGOTIATE WITH REAL FLEXIBILITY IN ORDER TO ASCERTAIN
WHAT CAN POSSIBLY BE SECURED THROUGH THESE TALKS."

4. ASKED WHETHER HE SAW ANY INDICATIONS THAT TURKS HAD GIVEN
SERIOUS STUDY TO UN SECRETARY GENERAL PROPOSALS REGARDING
REFUGEE PROBLEM, CLERIDIS REPLIED THAT MATTER DID NOT MERIT
SERIOUS STUDY "SINCE IT IS VERY SIMPLE", I.E. REFUGEES MUST
BE RETURNED TO THEIR HOMES IN CONDITIONS OF SAFETY. IN
SEPARATE COMMENT ON BRUSSELS MEETINGS LAST WEEK IN WHICH PRIME
MINISTER CARAMANLIS AND FOREIGN MINISTER BITSIO MET WITH
TURKISH OPPOSITE NUMBERS, CLERIDIS STATED THESE MEETINGS SEEM
TO HAVE "BROUGHT A CHANGE IN THE CLIMATE BETWEEN GREECE AND
TURKEY WHICH CANNOT BUT HAVE A FAVORABLE EFFECT ON THE CYPRUS ISSUE."

5. CLERIDIS CONFERRED WITH FONMIN BITSIOS EVENING JUNE 3
AND WITH PM CARAMANLIS MORNING JUNE 4 - BEFORE LATTER'S
DEPARTURE FOR OFFICIAL VISIT TO YUGOSLAVIA AT 11 A.M. SAME DAY.
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